

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The claims in this listing will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A color image forming apparatus₁ comprising:
 - a plurality of developing units for containing different color toners to form a color image;
 - a plurality of photo-receptor units including photo-receptors on which electrostatic latent images to be developed by said developing units are to be formed;
 - an intermediate transfer body unit including a tensionally provided belt with upper and lower surfaces to which toner images are transferred from said photo-receptors;
 - a jamming-removal opening, provided in a side surface of said color image forming apparatus, for removing a jammed recording sheet;
 - a developing unit cartridge integrally holding said plurality of developing units, said cartridge being detachably attached to said color image forming apparatus through said jamming-removal opening;
 - a photo-receptor unit cartridge integrally holding said plurality of photo-receptor units, said photo-receptor unit cartridge being detachably attached to said color image forming apparatus through said jamming-removal opening; and
 - an intermediate transfer body unit cartridge integrally holding said intermediate transfer body unit, said intermediate transfer body unit cartridge being detachably

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attached to said color image forming apparatus through said jamming-removal opening,
said intermediate transfer body unit cartridge being obliquely inclined with respect to
said developing unit cartridge when said intermediate transfer body unit cartridge and
said developing unit cartridge are installed in said color image forming apparatus.

2. (Currently Amended) A color image forming apparatus according to claim 1,
further comprising:

a sheet supply cassette disposed in a lower part of said color image forming
apparatus;

a sheet discharge tray disposed in an upper part of said color image forming
apparatus; and

a transporting mechanism ~~for transporting~~ that transports a recording sheet from
said sheet supply cassette to said sheet discharge tray,

wherein said jamming-removal opening is disposed ~~while being confronted with~~
in a vicinity of said transporting mechanism.

3. (Currently Amended) A color image forming apparatus according to claim 1,
wherein said photo-receptor unit cartridge ~~may be~~ is integrally coupled with said
intermediate transfer body unit cartridge.

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4. (Currently Amended) A color image forming apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said photo-receptor unit cartridge ~~may be~~ is integrally coupled with said intermediate transfer body unit cartridge.

5. (Currently Amended) A color image forming apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said developing unit cartridge ~~may be~~ is integrally coupled with said photo-receptor unit cartridge ~~which is integrally coupled with said intermediate transfer body cartridge.~~

6. (Currently Amended) A color image forming apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said developing unit cartridge ~~may be~~ is integrally coupled with said photo-receptor unit cartridge ~~which is integrally coupled with said intermediate transfer body cartridge.~~

7. (Currently Amended) A color image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said photo-receptor unit cartridge ~~may be~~ is divided into a plurality of sub-cartridges.

8. (Currently Amended) A color image forming apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said photo-receptor unit cartridge ~~may be~~ is divided into a plurality of sub-cartridges.

9. (Currently Amended) A color image forming apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said photo-receptor unit cartridge ~~may be~~ is divided into a plurality of sub-cartridges.

10. (Currently Amended) A color image forming apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said photo-receptor unit cartridge ~~may be~~ is divided into a plurality of sub-cartridges.

11. (Currently Amended) A color image forming apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said photo-receptor unit cartridge ~~may be~~ is divided into a plurality of sub-cartridges.

12. (Currently Amended) A color image forming apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said photo-receptor unit cartridge ~~may be~~ is divided into a plurality of sub-cartridges.

13. (Currently Amended) A color image forming apparatus according to claim 2, wherein ~~at least said upper surface of said belt is obliquely disposed,~~ said plurality of photo-receptor units, said plurality of developing units, and an optical unit are disposed closer to said upper surface of said belt, and said transporting mechanism is disposed closer to said lower surface of said belt.

14. (Currently Amended) A color image forming apparatus according to claim 4, wherein ~~at least said upper surface of said belt is obliquely disposed,~~ said plurality of photo-receptor units, said plurality of developing units, and an optical unit are disposed closer to said upper surface of said belt, and said transporting mechanism is disposed closer to said lower surface of said belt.

15. (Currently Amended) A color image forming apparatus according to claim 6, wherein ~~at least said upper surface of said belt is obliquely disposed,~~ said plurality of photo-receptor units, said plurality of developing units, and an optical unit are disposed closer to said upper surface of said belt, and said transporting mechanism is disposed closer to said lower surface of said belt.

16. (Currently Amended) A color image forming apparatus according to claim 8, wherein ~~at least said upper surface of said belt is obliquely disposed,~~ said plurality of photo-receptor units, said plurality of developing units, and an optical unit are disposed closer to said upper surface of said belt, and said transporting mechanism is disposed closer to said lower surface of said belt.

17. (Currently Amended) A color image forming apparatus according to claim 10, wherein ~~at least said upper surface of said belt is obliquely disposed,~~ said plurality of photo-receptor units, said plurality of developing units, and an optical unit are disposed

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closer to said upper surface of said belt, and said transporting mechanism is disposed closer to said lower surface of said belt.

18. (Currently Amended) A color image forming apparatus according to claim 12, wherein ~~at least said upper surface of said belt is obliquely disposed~~, said plurality of photo-receptor units, said plurality of developing units, and an optical unit are disposed closer to said upper surface of said belt, and said transporting mechanism is disposed closer to said lower surface of said belt.

19. (New) A color image forming apparatus, comprising:

- a plurality of developing units for containing different color toners to form a color image;
- a plurality of photo-receptor units including photo-receptors on which electrostatic latent images to be developed by said developing units are to be formed;
- an intermediate transfer body unit including a tensionally provided belt with upper and lower surfaces to which toner images are transferred from said photo-receptors;
- a jamming-removal opening, provided in a side surface of said color image forming apparatus, for removing a jammed recording sheet;
- a developing unit cartridge integrally holding said plurality of developing units, said cartridge being detachably attached to said color image forming apparatus through said jamming-removal opening;

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a photo-receptor unit cartridge integrally holding said plurality of photo-receptor units, said photo-receptor unit cartridge being detachably attached to said color image forming apparatus through said jamming-removal opening; and

an intermediate transfer body unit cartridge integrally holding said intermediate transfer body unit, said intermediate transfer body unit cartridge being detachably attached to said color image forming apparatus through said jamming-removal opening,

wherein said photo-receptor units are configured to attach to said intermediate transfer body unit via at least one groove formed in a side of said intermediate transfer body unit, and be removed from the color image forming apparatus with removal of the intermediate transfer body unit from the color image forming apparatus.

20. (New) A color image forming apparatus, comprising:

a plurality of photo-receptor units, each photo-receptor unit including a photo-receptor on which electrostatic latent images are to be formed; and

an intermediate transfer body unit, removable from the color image forming apparatus, which includes a belt to which toner images are transferred from said photo-receptors,

wherein said photo-receptor units are configured to attach to said intermediate transfer body unit via at least one groove formed in a side of said intermediate transfer body unit, and be removed from the color image forming apparatus with removal of the intermediate transfer body unit from the color image forming apparatus.